S-236 H.M. KRENTZ (skipjack) Wenona, Maryland

H.M. KRENTZ is a 44.3' long two-sail bateau, or V-bottomed deadrise type of centerboard sloop, commonly referred to as a skipjack. She has a beam of 15.6', a depth of 4.9', and a gross register tonnage of 8. She carries a typical skipjack rig of jib-headed mainsail and a single large jib with a club on its foot. Built in 1955 in Harryhogan, Virginia following traditional Bay design and construction methods, H.M. KRENTZ is significant as being one of the 35 surviving traditional Chesapeake Bay skipjacks and a member of the last commercial sailing fleet in the United States. H.M. KRENTZ is of special interest as having been built during the post World War II revival of skipjack building for the working oyster fleet.

Survey No. S-236

Magi No.

## Maryland Historical Trust State Historic Sites Inventory Form

DOE \_\_yes  $\frac{x}{n}$ no

CHESAPEAKE BAY SKIPJACK FLEET THEMATIC GROUP

1. Na	me (i	ndicate pre	ferred name)		
historic I	H.M. KRENTZ				
and/or comme	on				
2. Lo	cation				
street & num	ber	Lower The	orofare ·	n/	a not for publication
city, town	Wenona		n/ <u>a</u> vicinity of	congressional district	First
state 1	Maryland	024	county	Somerset 039	
3. Cla	ssifica	tion			
Category  district building( structure site object	Public Acc in proc being	e quisition	Status occupied unoccupied work in progress Accessible yes: restricted yes: unrestricted no	Present Useagriculturex commercialeducationalentertainmentgovernmentindustrialmilitary	museum park private residence religious scientific X transportation other:
name (	Clifton Webs	ter		telephone n	784-2148
city, town	Wenona		state		land 21870
	cation	of Lega	l Descripti		
courthouse, r	egistry of deeds	, etc.	n/a		liber
street & numb	er				folio
city, town		· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·		state	
6. Re	present	tation i	n Existing	Historical Surv	veys
title		Survey of	Surviving Traditi	onal Chesapeake Bay	r Craft
date		1983-1984		federalX sta	te county local
depository for	r survey records	Mary	land Historical Tr	ust, 21 State Circl	
city, town		Annapolis		state <sup>M</sup>	D 21401

Survey No. S-236

Condition ..

\_\_\_\_ fair

\_\_\_ excellent \_\_\_ good \_\_ deteriorated

\_ unexposed

\_ ruins

Check one \_\_\_ unaltered X\_ altered Check one n/a original site

\_ moved date of move

n/a

Prepare both a summary paragraph and a general description of the resource and its various elements as it exists today.

This vessel is a 44.3-foot-long two-sail bateau, or V-bottomed deadrise type of centerboard sloop, commonly known as a "skipjack." She is built in typical Bay fashion using cross-planked construction methods. Her beam is 15.6 feet; her depth, with centerboard down, 4.9. feet. She has a gross register tonnage of 8 tons. The wooden hull is painted the traditional white and carried a typical skipjack rig of jib-headed mainsail laced to the boom and carried on wood hoops at the mast, and a single large jib with a club on its foot. H.M. KRENTZ was built in 1955 in Harryhogan, Virginia for theoretical bateau, or V-bottomed deadrise type of vertical bateau.

The vessel is clipper-bowed, with a longhead and a slightly hollow, almost plumb stem. The stern is square, with a sharp rake to the transom. Overall, the vessel is high-sided, with a considerable amount of free-board. Her rudder is carried inboard at the stern.

The deck is flush, with several deck structures. From the stern forward these include: steering gear, located well forward of the after rail; a tall cabin trunk with a slide; a small hatch; winders, with a box covering them; a main hatch; and a small cuddy with a slide. The decks are surrounded with a tall pinrail aft, which is shorter at the foredeck and open at the dredge rollers. Other fittings and equipment include rollers, redging gear, winders, and a fuel drum for the pushboat. The pushboat is hung over the stern on davits.

The single mast is set up with double shrouds, forestay, jibstay, and topping lift; it is raked slightly aft. The boom is jawed to the mast. The bowsprit is rigged with double bobstays and double bowsprit shrouds.

Decorations include nameboards on the hull at the bow, with the name H.M. KRANTZ (both spellings are used locally, since "Krentz" is locally pronounced "Krantz) in black letters on a white ground.

8. S	ign	ificance	The state of the s	Survey No.	S-236
1500 1600 1700	istoric 1–1499 1–1599 1–1699 1–1799 1–1899	Areas of Significance—C  archeology-prehistoric agriculture architecture art commerce communications		iandscape archited iaw iterature indicates iterature indicates iterature ite	science sculpture social/ humanitarian theater
Specific	dates	1955	Builder/Architect He	erman M. Krentz, S	r.
check:	an	cable Criteria: X A d/or cable Exception: A	BX_CD	-	
	Level	of Significance: x_	nationalstate _	local	
Prepare	both	a summary paragraph o	of significance and a	a general statemen	t of history and

support.

This vessel is significant as being one of the  $3\mathbf{6}$  surviving traditional Chesapeake Bay skipjacks and a member of the last commercial sailing fleet in the United States. Out of a fleet of hundreds of skipjacks that worked Bay waters in the early years of this century, today only this small number remain to carry on the tradition of working sail.

The skipjack evolved as a distinct type of Bay vessel in the 1890's as a cheaper-toconstruct alternative to the earlier bugeyes and other traditional framed craft, in a period when shipbuilding costs were rising and the oyster catch was diminishing. type was devised by enlarging (to 25 to 60 feet) the hull of the ordinary, unframed, square-sterned Bay crabbing skiff, and giving it a deadrise bottom, a-deck, a cabin, and a sloop rig. The result--with its unframed, hard chine, cross-planked, V-bottom-proved inexpensive to build, easy to repair, and could be constructed by a competent house carpenter. Skipjacks were specifically designed as oyster dredge boats, with wide beams and low freeboard lending stability and providing a large working space on deck. The single masted rig, with sharp-headed mainsail and large jib, was easy to handle, powerful in light winds, and handy in coming about quickly for another pass over the oyster beds.

The Maryland oyster season begins November 1 and ends March 15. Skipjacks must dredge under sail on all days except Mondays and Tuesdays, when they are allowed to use their motorized pushboat for dredging. The pushboat, normally carried on davits at the stern, is lowered into the water and literally "pushes" the skipjack along from behind, the nose of the pushboat resting against a "jig" on the stern of the skipjack. boat can also legally be used to get the skipjack to and from the oyster beds each day. Each skipjack's crew is made up of the captain, who is often also the owner, and five crew members.

H.M.KRENTZ is of interest as having been built during the post World War II revival of skipjack building for the working oyster fleet. She was built in 1955 in Harryhogan, Virginia by Herman M. Krentz, Sr., for whom she was named. Although based in Virginia, Krentz repaired and rebuilt many Maryland vessels. H.M. KRENTZ was built for David Lewis of Cambridge, MD, who wanted a skipjack of 10 tons or less to dredge oysters on the Choptank. Krentz took measurements off one of the Maryland skipjacks he admired-the FANNIE L. DAUGHERTY (1904); the new skipjack varied slightly from the FANNIE in her

(continued overleaf)

measurements but met the tonnage requirements. A photograph of the building process is included in Robert Burgess, Chesapeake Sailing Craft, Part I.

In her working life, H.M. KRENTZ has won the Chesapeake Appreciation Days annual workboat races at Sandy Point State Park, as well as the workboat races at Deal Island, on several occasions. According to Robert Burgess, a photograph of the H.M. KRENTZ was used by the Franklin Mint as the basis for a silver ingot cast as part of their Famous Ships series.

The vessel was one of ten skipjacks built after World War II during a boom in the oyster business, all of which are still active except for the ROSIE PARKS (now at the Chesapeake Bay Maritime Museum). It is of great interest that even though these vessels were built over fifty years after the peak skipjack-building period, their design and construction methods closely followed turn-of-the-century prototypes.

9. Major Bibliographical deferences

Survey No. S-236

See Thematic Gmoup nomination cover form, Continuation Sheets No. 8-13.

10.	Geograf	hical D	ata			
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state		code	•	county		code
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name/title	Anne Wit	ty/ M. E.	Haywar	đ		
	Radcliff	e Maritime	Museur	n		
organization	Maryland	Historica	l Soci	ety	date	May, 1984
street & num	ber 201 Wes	t Monument	Stree	t	teleph	hone (301) 685-3750
tty or town	Baltimore				state	Maryland 21201
				<del></del>	0.016	

The Maryland Historic Sites Inventory was officially created by an Act of the Maryland Legislature to be found in the Annotated Code of Maryland, Article 41, Section 181 KA, 1974 supplement.

The survey and inventory are being prepared for information and record purposes only and do not constitute any infringement of individual property rights.

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Shaw House
21 State Circle
Apparalis Maryland 21401

Annaralis, Maryland 21401

(30. 269-2438

## Maryland Historical Trust State Historic Sites Inventory Form

Survey No. S-236
Magi No. 2002365833
DOE \_\_yes \_\_no

1. N:	ame (indic	ata mafana 1			
		ate preferred nam	ne)		
historic	H.M. KRENTZ				
and/or com					
2. Lo	cation				
street & nu	mber				not for publication
city, town	Wenona	vic	cinity of	congressional district	
state	Maryland		county	Somerset	
3. CI	assification	on			
Category  district buildin structu site X_ object	g(s) X private	X         yes: resident           dered         yes: un	upied n progress e stricted	Present Use agriculture commercial educational entertainment government industrial military	museum park private residence religious scientific X transportation other:
4. Ov	wner of Pro	operty (give	names and	d mailing addresse	
name	Clifton Webster				
street & nun	nber			telephone no	784-2148
city, town	Wenona		state a	and zip code Mary	land 21870
5. Lo	cation of	Legal Desc	riptio	n	
courthouse,	registry of deeds, etc.				liber
street & num	nber				folio
city, town				etata	10110
6. Re	presentat	ion in Exis	ting	state Historical Surve	evs
litle	_				
date					
	Dr Silmov roomdo			federal state	county local
	or survey records				
ity, town				state	

<b>7.</b>	De	SC	rip	oti	on

Survey No. S-236

Condition  — excellent — deteriorated — unaltered  — good — ruins — altered  — fair — unexposed	Check one original site moved date of move	
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Prepare both a summary paragraph and a general description of the resource and its various elements as it exists today.

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The vessel is clipper-bowed, with a longhead and a slightly hollow, almost plumb stem. The stern is square, with a sharp rake to the transom. Overall, the vessel is high-sided, with a considerable amount of free-board. Her rudder is carried inboard at the stern.

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Period	-1499       archeology-historic         -1599       agriculture         -1699       architecture         -1799       art         -1899       x commerce		w  ig landscape architectur  law  literature  mllitary  music	science sculpture social/ humanitarian theater x transportation
Specific	dates 1955	Builder/Architect	Herman M. Krentz, Sr.	other (specify)
check:	Applicable Criteria:A and/or Applicable Exception:			
	Level of Significance:	<del></del>		· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·
Prepare	both a summary paragraph	of simpificana,		

Cianificance

Prepare both a summary paragraph of significance and a general statement of history and support.

This vessel is significant as being one of the 36 surviving traditional Chesapeake Bay skipjacks and a member of the last commercial sailing fleet in the United States. Out of a fleet of hundreds of skipjacks that worked Bay waters in the early years of this century, today only this small number remain to carry on the tradition of working sail.

The skipjack evolved as a distinct type of Bay vessel in the 1890's as a cheaper-to-construct alternative to the earlier bugeyes and other traditional framed craft, in a period when shipbuilding costs were rising and the oyster catch was diminishing. The period was devised by enlarging (to 25 to 60 feet) the hull of the ordinary, unframed, square-sterned Bay crabbing skiff, and giving it a deadrise bottom, and a cabin, and a sloop rig. The result-with its unframed, hard chine, cross-planked, V-bottom-proved inexpensive to build, easy to repair, and could be constructed by a competent house carpenter. Skipjacks were specifically designed as oyster dredge boats, with wide beams and low freeboard lending stability and providing a large working space on deck. The single masted rig, with sharp-headed mainsail and large jib, was easy to handle, powerful in light winds, and handy in coming about quickly for another pass over the oyster beds.

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Robert Burge		eferences Survey No. S-236
	ss, Chesapeake Sailing Craft, Pa	art I (Cambridge, Md: Tidewater Publishers,19
	ss, "A Retired Builder's Wooden December, 1980	Wheels Steer Him in a New Direction," Nation.
10. Ge	ographical Data	
Quadrangle nam		Quadrangle scale
UTM References  A		B Zone Easting Northing
C		D
Verbal bounda	ry description and justification	
	13.70.001	Some City
List all states	and counties for properties overlappin	g state or county boundaries
state	code co	ounty code
state	code co	ounty code
11. For	m Prepared By	
name/title	Anne Witty/ M.E. Hayward	
organization	Maryland Historical Society	date 5/84
street & number	201 W. Monument St.	telephone 685-3750
city or town	Baltimore	state Maryland 21201

Maryland Historical Trust

Annapolis, Maryland 21401

Shaw House

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return to:

PS-2746

0. 3	oignificance	Survey No.	5-236
	□ 1499	J landscape architecture law literature military music	religion science sculpture social/ humanitarian theater transportation other (specify)
Specific	dates Builder/Architect		-
check:	Applicable Criteria: A B C D and/or Applicable Exception: A B C D	_EFG	
	Level of Significance:nationalstate	local	
Prepare support	both a summary paragraph of significance and	a general statement of	of history and

measurements but met the tonnage requirements. A photograph of the building process is included in Robert Burgess, Chesapeake Sailing Craft, Part I.

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Acreage of nominated property  Quadrangle name  UTM References do NOT con			Quadrangle scale
Zone Easting N	lorthing	B Zone Ea	sting Northing
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Verbal boundary description	and justification		
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return to:

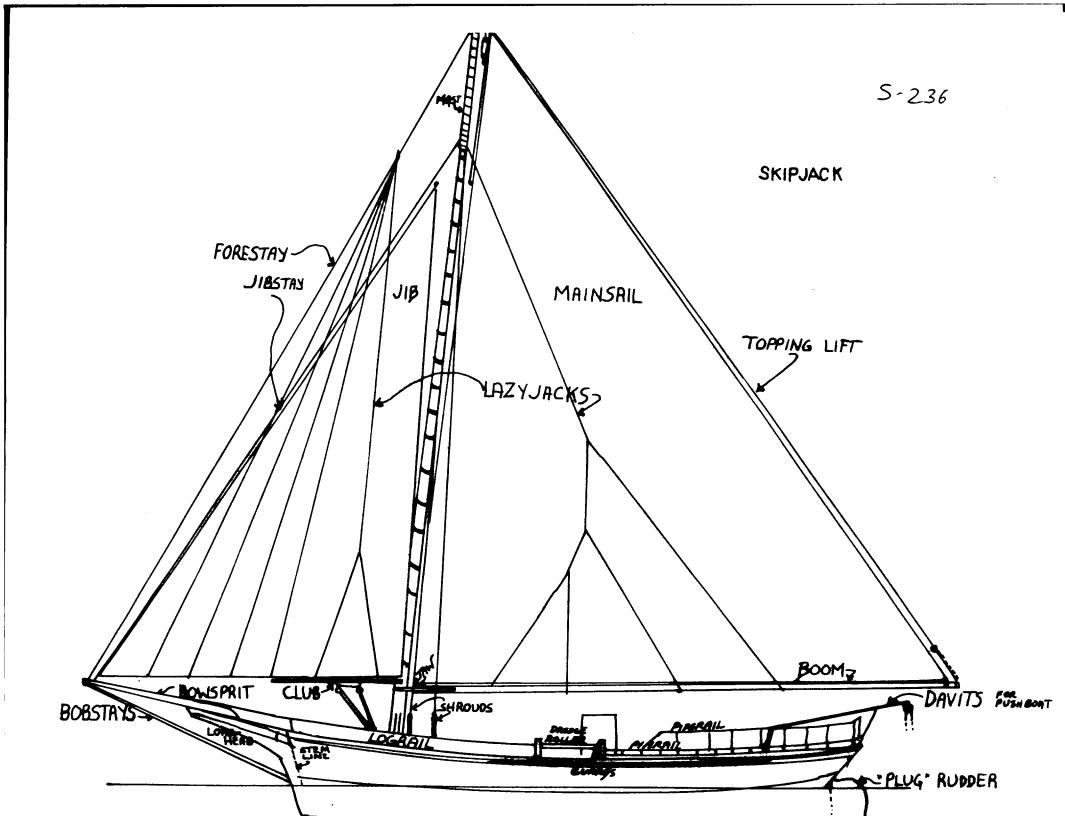
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H.M. KRENTZ Wenona, Md

bow starboard side M.C. Wootton 10/83



S - 236CRAMTZ H.M. KRENTZ

Wenona, Md

starboard side under sail

11/83 M.C. Wootton



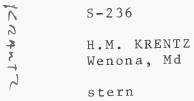
S - 236

H.M. KRENTZ Wenona, Md

bow

M. C. Wootton 10/83





Wenona, Md

10/83 M.C. Wootton